

**FAEGRE & BENSON LLP**

2200 WELLS FARGO CENTER, 90 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402-3901  
FAX CENTER TELEPHONE 612-766-1650  
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DATE: December 19, 2002	TIME: 3:23 .m. (Minneapolis)
NUMBER OF PAGES (including this page): 19	F&B FILE: 278026 REC: 784
TO: Examiner Sin J. Lee USPTO - Group Art Unit 1752	TELEPHONE: (703) 305-0504 FAX: (703) 872-9613

**MESSAGE**

Dear Examiner Lee,

This correspondence is in relation to 09/587,813.

Attached is a proposed response to the final rejection issued 08/20/02. We would like to ascertain whether the claim amendments will be entered, or whether it will be necessary to file an RCE.

Thank you,

*Sean Mahoney*

Sean Mahoney (Reg. No. 51,984)

*I told him  
that  
there are  
at least several  
instances  
where  
new issue  
that require  
further  
or further consideration  
arise.*

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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Applicant:</b> MARTYN LOTT et al.	<b>Examiner:</b> Lee, Sin J.
<b>Serial No.:</b> 09/587,813	<b>Group Art Unit:</b> 1752
<b>Filed:</b> June 6, 2000	
<b>For:</b> ARTICLE HAVING IMAGABLE COATINGS	<b>Docket No.</b> 58575-278026

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Jolene M. Alger

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

This paper is responsive to the outstanding Final Office Action mailed August 20, 2002. It is believed that this Amendment After Final places the application in condition for allowance, or in better condition for appeal, and entry of this response is respectfully requested. Please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 29, 38 and 39.

Please amend claims 1, 6, 8-10, 12, 14-21, 26-28, 31, 33-37, and 40 as follows:

1. (Three times amended) A method of treating a precursor, the precursor comprising a substrate and an imageable coating on the substrate, the imageable coating comprising a polymeric composition, the method comprising the step of heat-treating the precursor under conditions which inhibit the removal of moisture from substantially the entire surface area of the imageable coating, wherein heat-treating includes holding the precursor at a temperature of about 40° C or above for at least 12 hours.